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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1388  
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RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY  
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INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 2889  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 6681  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8184  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2740  
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RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4118  
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SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - TIBET

¶1. LEAD STORIES: Front-page stories on Wednesday morning included yesterday's press conference by DPJ President Ozawa, in which he apologized for the alleged illegal corporate donation scandal involving his top aide.

¶2. "Human Rights Neglected in Tibet over Half Century" On the 50th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising, the business-oriented Nikkei editorialized (3/11): "Chinese President Hu has trumpeted the creation of a 'harmonized society.' He should stop using force to control people in Tibet and instead respect their human rights, such as freedom of religion, so as to ensure ethnic reconciliation.... In order to prevent further violations of human rights, Beijing needs to 'open' Tibet by allowing domestic and foreign journalists, as well as foreign tourists, to move freely in the area."

¶3. "Concern about China's Uncompromising Posture" An editorial of the liberal Tokyo Shimbun argued (3/11): "It is incomprehensible that a 'stick and carrot' approach by the Chinese government would contain rebellion in Tibet. Engaging in dialogue with the Dalai Lama would help tamp down the situation.... China reacted very strongly to French President Sarkozy's meeting with the Dalai Lama. Close attention is warranted to an emerging superpower apparently taking a hard-line diplomatic posture."

ZUMWALT